ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An activated carbon that is capable of adsorbing taste-and-odor-causing and other organic compounds, wherein the activated carbon comprises a uniquely modified carbonaceous material. The activated carbon comprising: (a) a pore volume per gram of the activated carbon more than about 0.32 mL in the pore width range between about 4 to 63 angstroms; and (b) a pore volume per gram of the activated carbon more than about 0.21 mL in the pore width range between about 63 to 500 angstroms; provided that the pore volume per gram of the activated carbon in the pore width range of about 20 to 63 angstroms is at least about 25% of the total pore volume per gram of the activated carbon in the pore width range of 4 to 63 angstroms, as measured per the Argon Adsorption Density Functional Theory protocol; provided that the activated carbon has a pH equal to or greater than 9.9, when immersed as a slurry in nitrogen-purged deionized distilled water, while the slurry contains about 10% by weight of activated carbon, as measured per the Slurry pH protocol.